

Դրատարակութիւն Ամերիկայի Յայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան Publication of the Armenian Missionary Association of America Jan/Feb/March 2011 - XLV No. 1 (ISSN 1097-0924)





AMAA Board Meeting in California

AMAA NEWS

is a publication of

The Armenian Missionary Association of America 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652 Tel. (201) 265-2607; Fax (201) 265-6015 E-mail: amaa@amaa.org
Website: www.amaa.org

The AMAA is a Tax Exempt, not for profit organization under IRS Code Section 501(c)(3)

Levon Filian, Executive Director

OFFICERS

H. Steven Aharonian, M.D., President Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., Vice President Alan Philibosian, Esq., Vice President Joseph Zeronian, Ed.D., Vice President David Hagopian, Recording Secretary Thomas Momjian, Esq., Recording Secretary Gary Phillips, Esq., Recording Secretary Nurhan Helvacian, Ph.D., Treasurer David Hekemian, Assistant Treasurer

Levon Filian, Editor Louisa Janbazian, Associate Editor, Art Director

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

In order to keep our mailing list up to date, please send all corrections, along with the old address, to: AMAA NEWS 31 West Century Road Paramus, NJ 07652

E-mail: amaanews@amaa.org

PRINTING
Printsolutions
Englewood, NJ
Tel. (201) 567-9622

Cover Photo:

The Armenian Evangelical Church in Sochi, Russia

Now you can join us on Facebook (AMAA) and follow us on Twitter (AMAATweets)

Together, We Can Build Miracles Capital Campaign Phase II Update

n our last issue of AMAA News, we wrote about our success stories during Phase I of the Together, We Can Build Miracles Capital Campaign and challenged our members and friends to join us in Phase II of our Campaign.

The AMAA Board of Directors and the Development Committee planned a series of events for the success of this program. The Committee organized two appreciation dinners. One was held in Los



Angeles, California to coincide with the AMAA Board meeting in March. Ninety supporters and Board members attended the event. Executive Director Levon Filian gave a brief report on his recent trip to Armenia. He thanked the guests and challenged them to become enthusiastically (jigerov) involved in the AMAA mission. Jeanmarie Papelian gave an update on the Campaign plans, and Peter Kougasian gave an inspiring message on sharing and giving as Christians. Rev. Joseph Matossian and Rev. Mgrdich Melkonian offered the opening and closing prayers. Indeed, it was a family affair. The Board President, Dr. H. Steven Aharonian, and Elizabeth Agbabian shared their love, commitment and appreciation for the work the AMAA does around the world. The event was gilded by celebrating Pesa Joe's 80th birthday. The Committee thanks Arsine Phillips, Lori Muncherian, Joyce Stein, Pesa Joe and Ken Kevorkian for their efforts in making this event a great success.

A second appreciation dinner was held in Paramus, New Jersey in April. Over 80 supporters and Board members attended the event. The opening prayer was offered by Arouss Darpinian. Levon Filian thanked all for their continued support, gave an update on the AMAA missions in 24 countries and challenged them to continue their support for the AMAA mission. The program was enriched by attendees who shared their love for the AMAA. Albert Momjian, Peter Kougasian and Alan Philibosian, long time Board members and supporters of the AMAA, shared their love for the organization. The YY Sisters, Tatev, Sona and Lucy Yeghiazaryan, presented a bouquet of musical selections including Liturgy/Sharagans, Armenian folk songs and English songs. We thank Lucienne Aynilian and Anita Philibosian Buchakjian, Co-chairs of the Public Affairs Committee, who organized this wonderful event.

Moreover, the Development Committee organized dinner meetings hosted by Board members. The purpose for these dinner meetings was to invite friends and introduce them to the AMAA mission. We thank Joseph and Marilyn Zeronian, Ivan and Kohar Shnorhokian, David and Tina Segel, Joe and Joyce Stein, and Ken and Thelma Kevorkian for hosting these events. Over

(Cont'd on page 12)

31 WEST CENTURY ROAD PARAMUS, NJ 07652

PHONE: 201.265.2607 ■ FAX: 201.265.6015 ■ E-MAIL: amaa@amaa.org

Easter, April 24, 2011

Dear Friends and Supporters:

"Greetings" from the Risen Lord.

We bring you Good News.

In this age of great technology, news seems to travel at the speed of light. Within seconds of a disaster taking place in the most distant location of the earth, we are notified of the news and the extent of the damage it has caused in human lives and physical possessions. And within seconds, we also hear how people sacrificially reach out to help those in need.

Often, the news we hear is bad news, sad news, an earthquake, a tsunami, a fire, civil unrest, war, killing, recession and depression, joblessness and hopelessness.

This year, as we celebrate Easter, let us reflect on the **Good News** that came from the grave. In Matthew 28:5-8, the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here; He has risen, just as He said. Come and see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see Him.' Now I have told you." So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid, yet filled with joy, and ran to tell His disciples. Here is the Good News:

- **1. Do not be afraid:** There is no government, no earthquake, no power, not even death that God cannot overcome.
- 2. He is risen: God keeps His promise, conquers death and promises everlasting life.
- **3. Go and tell someone-quickly:** Be a witness, be a disciple and share with others the crucifixion of our Lord, bearing our sins on the cross and His promise for life-eternal life.
- **4. He is ahead of you:** Jesus is your shepherd and He is leading the way. He is going ahead of you, follow Him.
- **5. Filled with joy:** As you witness His resurrection, you will be filled with joy. This is a promise.
- **6. Jesus will meet you:** Are you willing to meet Him? The invitation is extended to you.
- 7. He will "Greet you" and Commission you: Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

This is a special year as Easter falls on April 24. Let us remember how the vicious enemy wanted to put our faithful fathers into a tomb and seal it with a stone. Let us remember how strong a faith our fathers had, facing even death for their beliefs. And let us not be afraid to witness their faith, and pass it to our next generation, teaching them that He is our shepherd, walking ahead of us, and share the joy that He invites us to meet Him and be greeted by Him.

The purpose of the AMAA is to be His witness all around the world in 24 countries, dispel the fear and proclaim joy. It is our prayer that you are filled with joy with the news of His resurrection and are ready to meet Him and be greeted by Him. We also pray that you will help us share this Good News around the world.

Please join us and become part of a legacy to share God's love and to provide a glass of cold water to the needy.

Phumnu juphul h uhnhing. Ophilhuj t Supniphilip Phumnuh:

"Krisdos haryav ee merelotz. Orhnyal e haroutuneh Krisdosi" (Christ arose from the dead. Blessed is the resurrection of Christ).

Levon Filian
Executive Director

AMAA Celebrates 20th Anniversary of the Orphan & Child Care Program

he Beverly Hills Hotel in Beverly Hills, CA was the beautiful setting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America's (AMAA) 20th Annual Orphan and Child Care luncheon and children's fashion show held on March 19. A sold out crowd of over 500 guests and supporters of AMAA's Orphan and Child Care programs was warmly welcomed by the luncheon chairwomen, Sandy Bedrosian and Maro Yacoubian. The Co-Chairs of this event worked tirelessly for months to make every aspect of the luncheon enjoyable for all the guests.

Henry Segel, 13 year old grandson of Joe and Joyce Stein, esteemed advisor and National Co-Chair of the Orphan and Child Care Committee, gave a moving devotional about charity and asked the audience to "not turn a blind eye to the poor." He reminded everyone that it is "our responsibility to fund and nurture those less fortunate" by being generous in caring for Armenia's needy children. Henry offered a prayer asking God to "keep us charitable, so that we may continue to put shoes on the feet of these children, to put food on their plates and to give them beds to sleep in."

Joyce Stein's interview with nine year old Nellie Soames captured everyone's attention. Nellie explained that she donated \$250 of her own money for the needy children in Armenia. Levon Filian, Executive Director of the AMAA, thanked everyone for attending and for their continued support of the AMAA programs and projects, and specifically, the orphan and child care projects.

This year's record breaking silent auction was especially spectacular – there were many wonderful items to bid on! Christina Jabarian, silent auction chair, with the help of many committee members, especially Sandy Bedrosian, helped procure items which made the auction a tremendous success. Each of the

guests received a beautiful pearl cross, donated by Christina and Harout Jabarian.

During lunch, Nar Gulvartian, son of Lucy Gulvartian, presented a moving video describing the poor and substandard conditions which many of Armenia's children live in. Maro Yacoubian and her twelve year old son, Vahe, encouraged everyone to sponsor a child. Vahe read very touching letters from Angela and Gourken, two children in Armenia. Nearly 70 needy children were sponsored.

After a delicious dessert, the children's fashion show was introduced by Marilyn Bezdikian and Ani Zakari, who coordinated this year's show. The fashion show was sponsored and produced by Nordstrom Glendale. Sabrina Agbabian, 14 year old granddaughter of Elizabeth Agbabian, shared her memories of being an AMAA child/orphan care model since the age of three. "Every person in this room has made a difference" said Sabrina, "and with all of our generosity, love and kindness combined, we can have a large impact on many children in Armenia."

The finance and reservations chair, Sandra Kalemkiarian, who works tirelessly every year for the success of this event, was joined by her daughter, Sara, who incorporated new technology and programs to efficiently close out the auction. Diane Cabraloff and her daughter, Anush, worked to help with the close out as well.

The tables were adorned with breathtaking floral centerpieces which were generously donated by Zareh David Ghoukassian of Z's Flowers in Glendale. The committee is very grateful to Z's Flowers for its continued support of this event every year.

The guests left the event with a bag full of goodies, including amazing lotions and nail care products donated by Jessica Vartoughian of Jessica Nails, and raisins donated by LindaKay Abdulian. The beautiful gift bags with the AMAA





logo were created and generously donated by Arsi Seraydarian.

Plans are already underway for next year's fashion show and luncheon which will again be held at the Beverly Hills Hotel, explained Lori Muncherian, the West Coast Co-Chair of the committee. "We are looking forward to another successful year to help raise money for the needy children in Armenia."

"We are trying to help change a child's life and give hope for a better future one child at a time," explained Tina Segel, daughter of Joyce Stein and a dedicated member of the committee. If you would like to sponsor a child or make a donation, please contact Arsine Phillips at (213) 509-4337.

The Orphan and Child Care Committee thanks everyone who contributed to this event by their attendance, donations, participation and financial support.









A Challenge and a Prayer By Henry Segel

In Deuteronomy 15:7-8 we read: "If anyone is poor among your fellow brothers in any of the towns of the land the Lord your God is giving you, do not be hard-hearted or tightfisted toward them. Rather, be openhanded and freely lend them whatever they need."

The message portrayed in these verses is about charity. It says, "do not be hard-hearted or tightfisted... rather be openhanded and give freely." As centuries have passed, the gap between the wealthy and the poor has widened, and those of us who are on the more desirable side of the spectrum are challenged to help and nurture those who are less fortunate.

Two summers ago, I was fortunate enough to visit the Sheen-Shoghig Camp in Hankavan, Armenia. I witnessed how the AMAA invited the poor children in Armenia to give them a health check-up, clothing to take home with them, a comfortable bed, three meals per day, and an atmosphere of love and care, fun and games. What struck me most, were their adorable faces and the beautiful smiles on their faces.



Well, I can assure you, that the AMAA is not hard-hearted, or tightfisted. In many ways, the AMAA was responsible for those smiles. Smiles so vibrant that you would have thought it was Christmas morning.

I think what we can learn from all of this, the verse, the children and the camps, is that it is our duty, as Christians, to keep those smiles on those faces. And, if we are generous as the Bible tells us to be, I can promise you the happiness, the joy and the hope that we bring will be returned.

Please bow your heads in prayer,

Dear Lord, I pray that you will inspire us to fulfill our responsibility as Christians and keep us from being hard-hearted, or tightfisted. I pray that you keep us charitable, so that we may continue to put shoes on the feet of these children, to put food on their plates, and to give them beds in which to sleep. And Lord, we pray a special prayer today for those families in Armenia, whose lives are burdened with hardship. May we do our part today to help them. In your name we pray, Amen.

Armenian Evangelical Churches in Eurasia

urasia is a continent which comprises the traditional continents of Europe and Asia and covers over 10% of the Earth's surface. It is inhabited by almost four billion people, more than 72% of the world's population. Eurasia was the foundation of many modern civilizations and continues to be a center of culture today.

There is a long and rich history of Armenians living and worshipping in Eurasia. The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) has had a presence in Eurasia since the 1990s and helped establish churches in several major cities. Today, there are a total of nine churches and fellowships in Eurasia, which are coordinated by the Armenian Evangelical Union of Eurasia and headed by Rev. Dr. René Léonian.

Russia

The Armenian presence in Russia began in the late Middle Ages when various artisans, merchants and traders ventured north to the Crimea and to the northern Caucasus to establish trade ties and to conduct commerce.

The 2002 Russian census recorded over 1.1 million Armenians living in Russia. However, taking into account Armenians who do not hold Russian citizenship, it is estimated that there are as many as 2.9 million Armenians living in Russia. This makes Russia home of the largest Armenian population outside of Armenia proper. Armenians populate various regions in Russia, including Moscow, Saint Petersburg, Kaluga, Tula, Yaroslavl, Stavropol, Sochi (Krasnodar), Rostov, Saratov, Astrakhan, Omsk and Novosibirsk.

Armenian Evangelical Church, Moscow

Situated near the Moskva River in the Central Federal District of European Russia, Moscow has a population of 15 million people, 1 million of whom are Armenians. The capital of Russia, Moscow has long been a major political, economic, cultural, scientific, religious, financial, education and transportation center of Russia and the world. It is the largest city in Europe and features many parks, museums,

churches and places of interest including Gorky Park, the Kremlin and Red Square.

The first Armenian Evangelical Church in Moscow was established in 1993 and was led by Pastor Vahan Frankian. Another church was established in 2002 and was led by Rev. Masis Akopian. Later. in 2002, these two churches merged to form the present Armenian Evangelical Church of Moscow, which is led by Rev. Masis Akopian. Initially, there were 10 members and today, there are 50 members. The pastor and his assistant have studied at a Bible college of "New Life."

The Church holds Sunday worship services, Sunday school, fraternal ministry, a ministry for mothers in prayer, and spiritual concerts. The Church also supports a fellowship in Saratov, which is led by Pastor Vahan Frankian.





Armenian Evangelical Church, Sochi

Sochi, a popular resort city with a subtropical climate, is situated on the Black Sea's eastern coast beneath the dramatic Caucasus Mountains. Armenians have been present in Sochi since 1882 and constitute about one fifth of the city's population. They are the largest minority group



in Sochi and actively participate in the city's social, political and cultural life.

The Armenian Evangelical Church in Sochi was established in 1996. Initially, there were 10 members and about 15 visitors. Today, the Church has 36 members and an average of 50 visitors. The Church holds worship services, Bible studies, prayer meetings and small worship services held in houses and led by church elders. The Church members visit evangelical groups in Kruevo-Armyamski Vasilyevsa Villages. Two students from Sochi received a calling to serve God. They enrolled and completed the seminary courses offered at the Evangelical Theological Academy of Armenia in Yerevan. The current pastor is Rev. Sasoun Karakhanian.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Sochi extends its ministry to the Armenian Evangelical Fellowships of Khosda and Adler.

Georgia

In the 18th and 19th centuries, many rich Armenian merchants, famous jewelers and oil industrialists invested heavily in businesses in Georgia and helped build cultural centers and schools. In addition, many Armenian politicians, writers, poets and artists settled in Georgia making the area of Tbilisi a veritable cultural center for Eastern Armenians. The number of Armenians increased so much that by the early 19th century, Armenians far outnumbered Georgians in the capital. Armenians have left a rich, architectural imprint in Georgia with prominent Armenian architects constructing some of the most beautiful historical buildings in Tbilisi.

Armenian Evangelical Church, Tbilisi



Tbilisi, an industrial, social and cultural center in Georgia, was established in the 5th century. The city, with a population of over 1.1 million, has become a veritable cultural center for the estimated over 100,000 Armenians living there.

The roots of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Tbilisi date back to the end of the 19th century. However, there were times, when the church was persecuted and worship services were held secretly in homes. The present Armenian Evangelical Church in Tbilisi was re-established in 1994 by Pastor Rev. Alik Minasian. The current pastor is Rev. Karen







Khachaturian, who studied at the Evangelical Theological Academy of Armenia. Initially, there were 320 members, many of whom left for America, Europe and Russia. Today, there are about 50 members.

The Church has a Sunday school, Bible study and day camps. For the past six years, the Church has been visiting 30 families in Samshvildo Village and holding worship services. A day camp for 45 children was established in the Village in 2010.

Akhalkalak Region Armenian Evangelical Church, Akhalkalak



The population of the Region is about 80,000 people, 90% of whom are Armenians. Akhalkalak is located in southern Georgia, approximately 30km from the Turkish border. Once a political and economic center, today most of the people work in the field of agriculture. There are museums and monuments as well as a sports complex

and many Armenian schools.

The Armenian Evangelical Church was established in 1990 in the Gumburdoum Village of Akhalkalak. There are now four churches in the Region of Akhalkalak. The pastor of the Akhalkalak City and Goumbourdou churches and Akhaltzke fellowship is Rev. Valeri Zakarian and Mr. Gamo Mhdesian is the Preacher for the Church in Soulda Village. The Goumbourdou Church has 64 members and 18 visitors. Worship services are held in homes.





The Church holds Sunday worship services, Bible study, prayer meetings, fraternal prayer meetings and a Sunday school.

An AMAA office is located in the Armenian Evangelical Church of Akhalkalak City and oversees a sponsorship program for 18 needy families.







Abkhazia Region Armenian Evangelical Church, Sukhumi



Sukhumi was considered to be one of the most important towns in the Abkhazia Region before the Georgian-Abkhazian War, which began in 1992. Today, the economy is heavily integrated with Russia and relies a great deal on tourism. The Abkhazia Region has an Armenian population of over 60,000. There are several Armenian schools located in Sukhumi and in the villages.

Established in 1960, the first pastor of The Armenian Evangelical Church in Sukhumi was Rev. Ghevond Nalbandian. Rev. Onik Konolian followed him as pastor and continued his ministry until 1985 when he left for America. Today, the Church does not have a permanent address but instead worships in the home of the Pastor Rev. Mihran Torosian who began his ministry in 1985. Initially, there were 17 members in the Church and currently there are 40 members.

The Church had a Sunday school but it no longer exists. There are many young people who participate in worship services and serve the Church with great love.



Karabagh

Karabagh is a landlocked region in the South Caucasus. The region is mostly mountainous and forested and has an area of 1,700 sq. miles. Karabagh has a population of over 145,000, 95% of whom are Armenian. The town of Stepanakert is located in eastern Armenia and was founded in 1918. The population of Stepanakert is approximately 60,000 people most of whom work in hospitals, schools and in factories. A monument of a grandmother and grandfather is one of the main attractions in Stepanakert.

Armenian Evangelical Church, Stepanakert

This Armenian Evangelical Church was established for a small circle of worshippers in 2003. Initially, there were 60 members and today there are 124 members. The pastor is Rev. Aram Mkrtchyan who is a graduate of the Evangelical Theological Academy of Armenia.

The Church has a Sunday school, adolescent and youth worship services, Bible studies, prayer meetings, seminars, camps and day camps.







Avedisian School Good Things Continue Unfolding

by Pamela J. Karg*

othing good ever ends," William Saroyan wrote in "The Human Comedy" in 1943.

At the Khoren and Shoushanig Avedisian Primary School of the Armenian Evangelical Educational Center on the outskirts

of Yerevan, the same is true. Good things continue.

"We teach to make sure our students have knowledge, not just to make sure they can pass an exam," explains Melania Keghamyan, Principal of The Avedisian School. "Even during the holidays, teachers are here because students come for extra classes to make sure they have the knowledge they need to succeed in life."

Keghamyan has been the Principal since the school opened in 1999 in the southwest district known locally as "Bangladesh." During Soviet times, farmers and villagers arriving from rural areas built new lives there, far from the city center. It's a vibrant place, yet people are packed together in cramped quarters. Poverty abounds. The School has become an island in this sea where children can receive a high-quality, free education.

Today, The Avedisian School is home to nearly 300 students, as well as 56 staff members, including 32 teachers, all but three of whom have been with the School since it opened. The Avedisian School is licensed by the Ministry of Education and teaches first through ninth grades, as well as kindergarten. As Armenia's educational system has increased the years young people study, now up to grade 12, The Avedisian School also hopes one day to offer education in a high school. For now, though, the building is bursting at its seams and cannot physically handle more students such as Gohar Paronyan, age 13.

Paronyan has attended The Avedisian School since kindergarten. She feels love and support from Keghamyan and the staff as she and her classmates start each day with The Lord's Prayer and enjoy weekly Bible study classes. In addition to typical core curriculum required in all Armenian schools, Paronyan and her classmates study French, British English and Russian.

"I like mathematics," says Paronyan shyly in English. "I want to study finances in a university so I can work in a bank."

"Education can lead families out of poverty," adds Lilit Stepanyan, the School's English teacher. "We start from the beginning, explaining what can be achieved through education to make life better for all."

Keghamyan concurs. The School already has several graduates who are outstanding in languages and math at the high school level, and they're preparing for university studies.

Because of high unemployment in the Bangladesh area and the fact that many of Avedisian's children come from single-parent or working poor households, students receive daily meals and free medical check-ups that can include necessary pharmaceuticals. It all happens through the support of organizations such as the Armenian







Lilit Stepanyan



Melania Keghamyan, principal of Avedisian School.

Missionary Association of America (AMAA), as well as the United Methodist Committee on Relief, World Vision, the Jinishian Memorial Foundation which is operated by the American Presbyterian Church, and others.

Only students living in the Bangladesh area can apply to The Avedisian School. It receives over 100 applications annually for the limited seats in each new class and any other vacancies that result from when children move out of the area. After being selected, the child's entire family must get involved. In addition to following standard school rules, adults – hopefully both parents but sometimes only grandparents who are in the child's life – must pledge to help keep the student focused and motivated. Keghamyan says that these adults should also get involved in the life of the School.

(Cont'd on the next page)

Warm and Welcoming Meetings In Cold and Freezing Weather

n February 2011, the Armenian Missionary Association of America's (AMAA) Executive Director Levon Filian visited AMAA's mission field in Armenia. Meetings were held with the leadership of Evangelical Churches of Armenia, Academy and Christian Education Department and the Administrative Department. He thanked them, encouraged them and challenged them to do greater things. Harout Nercessian, AMAA Operations Director in Armenia, joined him to pay a visit to many of the AMAA kindergartens and camps, including the centers in Karabagh. They were welcomed by Arsen Manassyan, AMAA Representative in Karabagh, and Rev. Aram Mkrtchyan, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Karabagh. □



L to R: Harout Nercessian, Levon Filian, Arsen Manassyan and Rev. Aram Mkrtchyan.



AMAA Executive Director Levon Filian meets with pastors and Christian workers of the Evangelical Church of Armenia.



Levon Filian with the Bilezikian KG students in Shoushi, Karabagh.

(Cont'd from previous page)

She makes herself available to students, parents or grandparents, staff, supporters and other visitors, including government officials, international VIPs, and spouses of national leaders. She makes it possible that The Avedisian School moves forward and is above reproach within the Armenian educational system. For her efforts, Keghamyan has earned a gold medal as "School Director of the Year" and recognition from the Russian Federation for making sure that its language and culture is taught. The School maintains relationships with a few orphanages, so Keghamyan works after school with the parent group to collect gifts or clothes to donate. She volunteers on her church board and attends meetings of a Christian women's group. Her husband also works in the church. Mother of four and

grandmother of four, she also finds time to meet with parents and students who need a little extra attention or encouragement because of life outside of the schoolyard.

"I can do all this because of my faith, and the strength God gives me," she explains.

Stepanyan adds that Keghamyan has the right mix of strength and compassion, and knows how to use both to bring out the best in everyone at the school. She says good things continue to happen everyday at The Avedisian School.

(Editor's note: Karg is an award-winning freelance writer and photographer from Baraboo, Wisconsin, who has lived in Armenia since 2004 as an Individual Volunteer in Mission through the United Methodist Church.)

(Cont'd from page 2)

40 guests attended these events and expressed their appreciation for being introduced to the AMAA mission. Most of them made commitments to get involved in the AMAA mission. Several of them made financial contributions to support our programs.

And, yes! Yes, we have already started to do what we promised to do.

- 1. We have planned an internship program for our youth in July 2011.
- 2. We have planned a major banquet, to be held in Los Angeles on October 15, 2011.
- 3. We have planned a leadership program for our pastors in Armenia in September 2011.
- 4. We have started and continue to remodel and renovate our kindergartens and schools in Armenia and the Middle East.
- 5. We have started and continue to remodel our camps in Armenia, Karabagh and Lebanon.
- 6. We have started and continue to remodel a church in Belgium.
- 7. We have started and continue to remodel churches in Armenia.
- 8. We have taken major steps to start the construction of the Avedisian School.

We are and continue to challenge you – our friend, supporter and prayer partner – to do your best in contributing to our great cause and commission.

Please join us and become part of a legacy to share God's love and to provide a glass of cold water to the needy. \square







Appreciation Dinner in Los Angeles











Meetings with His Eminence Archbishop Hovnan Derderian and His Eminence Archbishop Moushegh Mardirosian





The Minister to the Armenian Evangelical Union of

North America (AEUNA), Rev. Joseph Matossian, and the Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) Levon Filian, visited Archbishop Derderian and Archbishop Mardirosian at their respective headquarters. Topics of discussion included continued cooperation among the churches, the spiritual growth of the Armenian community and the challenges to help the Armenian schools in the Diaspora. \square

Appreciation Dinner in New Jersey









Mission Madness in March

he month of March was full of AMAA mission activities. Between the AMAA Board of Directors meeting, which was held on March 5, 2011 at the Holy Trinity Armenian Church in Hollywood, CA, and the Orphan and Child Care event held on March 19, 2011 at the Beverly Hills Hotel, the AMAA Executive Director Levon Filian met with friends and supporters of the AMAA in Fresno, Santa Barbara and Los Angeles and participated in church services and banquets.

We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who welcomed the Executive Director to share God's word with them, discussed the AMAA mission in 24 countries and promised to continue praying for the AMAA and supporting its programs world-wide. \square















Armenian Evangelical Central High School

he Armenian Evangelical Central High School of Eshrefieh (Beirut, Lebanon) held an alumni reunion on March 18, 2011 at the Phoenicia Restaurant in Glendale, CA. Over 150 alums and guests attended the event, which brought back many fond memories.

Two honorees received awards for their years of service and dedication to the School. Mr. Artoon Hamalian, former Principal, was honored as Principal of the Year and Mrs. Lena Havounjian Boyajian, a former faculty member, was also honored as Teacher of the Year for her dedicated service as an educator. Raffi Kendirjian, a graduate of the School, served as Master of Ceremonies and Sahag Shamlian, Vice President of the Alumni Association, presented the prestigious awards. Two other former principals of the School, Mr. Aram Boulghourjian and Mr. Hovhannes Havounjian, were also present at the reunion.



L to R: Kegham Proudian, Raffi Kendirjian, Sahag Shamlian and Hratch Mouradian.



L to R: Thelma Kevorkian, Anayis Derian and Aram Boulghourjian.



L to R: Raffi Kendirjian, Artoon Hamalian-Principal of the Year and Sahag Shamlian.



Raffi Kendirjian presenting the award to Mrs. Lena Havounjian Boyajian-Teacher of the Year.



Dr. & Mrs. Vicken and Sossi Aharonian (left) with reunion guests.

Rev. Joseph Matossian, Ministerto the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA), offered the invocation and Levon Filian, Executive Director of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), brought greetings from the AMAA.

Christmas Joy Comes to Children in Armenia and Karabagh

he Christmas season is a time of joy. However, for many Armenian children and adults, Christmas can be a reminder of poverty and sadness.

Each year, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), together with the Evangelical Church of Armenia (ECA), sponsors Christmas Programs to bring joy to over 10,000 children and adults in 48 towns and villages in Armenia and Karabagh. Since 1999, these programs have been funded by proceeds from the "Christmas in October" campaign, organized by the AMAA's Summer Camp/Christmas Committee. A total of \$36,870 was raised in the 2010 campaign. These funds were used to provide Christmas trees, decorations and a Christmas Joy package for all of the children who attended.

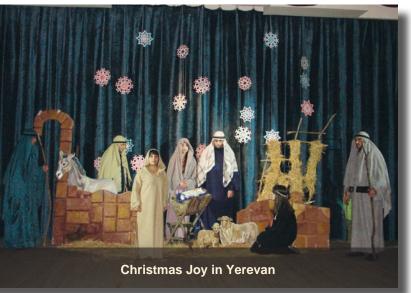
Many locations presented plays with the help of the Christian Education workers, who worked tirelessly preparing the children for their roles. The programs, which proclaimed the meaning of Jesus Christ's birth, included music, drama, songs, games and dance as well as appearances by Santa Claus and the Snow Maiden. Children and their parents saw, heard and experienced the Christmas message of God's love.

In Talin, "The Star of Bethlehem" was performed. The play is the story of four stars, each of them thinking they were the most important star in heaven. After they refused to light the magi's way to Jesus because they had no time, a little star was asked to light the way. This star was called the Star of Bethlehem and began to shine brighter than the others. In the end, hearing the message of the birth of Jesus, the stars understood that the real light is Jesus Christ, who lightens our hearts and souls.

"The Grinch Who Stole Christmas" was performed in Tumanyan. The story evolves around a boy who didn't like to celebrate Christmas and lived alone in a small cabin on top of a mountain. On Christmas Eve, he stole the town's Christmas tree and mixed up the Christmas presents. Only a little girl saw him do this. She told the boy the story of Jesus Christ and, seeing God's love of the girl for him, he was changed and became kinder.

In Yerevan, the ECA theatrical group "Hayasa" presented a performance of "The Christmas Miracle." The story centers on a blind girl in Bethlehem who had her sight restored when she touched the clothing of Baby Jesus. Over a thousand children and their families participated in the program. The play was







written and produced by Noune Abrahamyan, and included the children's dancing group "Victoria", led by Marina Yudaeva.

These events were attended by hundreds of guests who expressed their gratefulness and appreciation for the programs and the messages they portrayed. The staff and volunteers of AMAA Armenia as well as the volunteers of the Summer Camp/ Christmas Committee, the Orphan Child Care Committee and other partnering organizations are to be commended for their efforts raising the needed funds and organizing this year's Christmas events. \square







Christmas Joy in Alaverdi



Christmas Joy in Talin









AMAA Hosts Neiman Marcus Brunch

To Benefit Orphan and Child Care

n December 1, the AMAA NY/NJ Orphan and Child Care Committee held a very special brunch hosted and underwritten by Neiman Marcus in Paramus, showcasing Boehm Porcelains. With over 60 guests in attendance, the Committee was able to kick-off the holiday season with this unique event.

In addition to the delicious brunch served, guests were treated to a presentation given by Boehm Porcelain's Chairwoman, Ms. Sharon Lee Parker. Truly a dynamic and motivational speaker, Ms. Parker, a nationally known Cancer Coach, author, founder of the Life Lover Foundation for cancer research, and an avid lover of Boehm Porcelain, connected the inspiration behind the creation of Boehm Porcelain Products, motivating guests to support the AMAA Orphan and Child Care Program.

AMAA Executive Director Levon Filian opened the program with welcoming remarks and a warm thank you to Neiman Marcus for hosting this event. In addition, MJ Hekemian and June Collignon, Co-chairs of the Committee, offered enthusiastic remarks expanding upon the Orphan and Child Care Program in Armenia and the special medical needs some of these children in the Program require. The true spirit of Christmas was realized from over \$6,000



raised from this event. To date, proceeds have been applied to a dozen cases and have helped address some of the children's specific medical needs.

Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney Appoints New Minister

he Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney, Australia, established in 1966, has appointed a new minister, Rev. Hagop Sarkissian. The induction ceremony took place on December 19, 2010 at the Church.

Rev. Sarkissian holds a BA in Education from Haigazian University and a Master of Divinity in Theology from the Near East School of Theology in Beirut, Lebanon. He has served as a dedicated ordained Minister of a number of Armenian Evangelical churches in Syria and Lebanon for many years, and brings with him a wealth of knowledge, wisdom and experience to share with the congregation as well as with the Australian and Armenian communities in Australia. Rev. Sarkissian and his wife, Silva, arrived in Australia in late October with their two daughters, Patil and Serli.

The induction took place at the worship service which was led by Levon Kardashian. Lucy Aroyan, Council Vice Chair, welcomed the guests and the Rev. Dr. Andrew Williams, General Secretary of the NSW Synod of the Uniting Church of Australia (UCA), delivered the homily. The Chairperson of the UCA Sydney North Presbytery, the Rev. Jane Fry, conducted the induction ceremony, which included prayers, and the declaration and words of encouragement to the new minister and the congregation. Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian, former Minister of the Church who retired in 2010, also took part in the service by reading a Biblical passage. A message from



Rev. Megrditch Karagoezian, President of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East (UAECNE), was read. Rev. Sarkissian conveyed his appreciation to the congregation and guests and concluded the ceremony with his blessing.

Armenian Evangelical Bethel Church of Aleppo Rededicates Sanctuary

ver the centuries, the most essential foundation of the Armenian people has been the Armenian Church and the Armenian School. The Armenians, who left their homes, towns and cities during and after the Turkish atrocities and fled to other countries, believed that the most important thing for them would be to build a new church and a new school in their new hometowns.

In the same manner, the Armenian Evangelical Bethel Church was established 88 years ago, in 1923, in Aleppo, Syria, and it served the Armenian Evangelical community. However, after many years, the old church building needed renovations to continue its vibrant ministry. The pastor, Rev. Haroutune Selimian, and the entire congregation faithful to the dedication of their forefathers, and with faith and much dedication, took a bold step to totally renovate the Church structure.

On January 7, 2011, the Church held a rededication service of the sanctuary to praise God for his abundant blessings and leadership, and to thank the congregation and the community for their support. The leaders and priests from the Armenian Apostolic Churches, Catholic Churches and Evangelical Churches participated in the rededication ceremony and conveyed their heartfelt congratulations. Among other dignitaries who attended the service was the Armenian Consul of Aleppo.

Following the rededication program, the "Yerakhdik" Choir, under the direction of Mrs. Shoghagat Apartian Selimian, performed a beautiful Christmas program. The event was concluded with the benediction of the heads of the Armenian Apostolic, Catholic and Evangelical churches. \square





Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium Undergoes Renovation

ithin the last 20 years, many Armenians have emigrated from Armenia and Turkey and settled in several cities in Belgium. Currently, over 30,000 Armenians live in Belgium, mostly in Antwerben, Brussels, Hasselt, Laeken, Liege and Mechelen.

The Armenian Evangelicals have established churches and hold worship services in these six cities. The worship services are held in Armenian and in Turkish for Armenians who have come from Turkey. The ministries include worship services, Sunday school programs, youth programs and prayer meetings for the women. Indeed, the AMAA is grateful to God for blessing these ministries.

Each year, during the month of June, the Church sponsors two camps. One is for the Turkish speaking Armenians with about a 100 in attendance. The second one is for the Armenian speaking with over 130 in attendance. Four people serve in the churches and there are about 300 believers who worship in these churches.

With the help of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), the Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium purchased its own church building in Brussels on May 28, 2009. Soon after the purchase, the young adults of the church started the preliminary work – demolition and cleaning – to prepare the building



for renovations. The actual renovation of the building started in May 2010. If all of the renovations go well according to the plan, the Church will be able to hold its worship services in the new building in September 2011. The Church still needs 70,000 Euros to finish this project. The Church is very grateful to the AMAA and to all the donors who partnered with the Armenian Evangelical Church of Belgium to have its own church building.

AMAA and AEUNA Donate 600 Armenian Bibles and New Testaments

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America (AEUNA) donated over 600 Armenian Bibles and New Testaments to over ten Armenian Evangelical Churches and Fellowships in the United States.

In the Old Testament, we read: "Your word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path." (Psalm 119:105) In the New Testament, we read: "All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness." (2 Timothy 3:16)

For these reasons, we wanted to spread God's word in our churches. We would like to continue spreading God's word with your continued prayers and financial support to the AMAA.

The following churches and fellowships received Armenian Bibles and New Testaments:

Holy Trinity Armenian Evangelical Church, Glendale, CA
Holy Trinity Armenian Church, North Hollywood, CA
Christ Armenian Church, La Crescenta, CA
Christian Outreach for Armenians, Glendale, CA
Armenian Memorial Church, Watertown, MA
Armenian Evangelical Fellowship, Las Vegas, NV
Armenian Christian Outreach of Paznaz, Pasadena, CA
Armenian Evangelical Brethren Church, Glendale, CA
Calvary Armenian Congregational Church, San Francisco, CA
Ararat Evangelical Church, Sandy, UT

Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian: A Pastor for All Seasons (On the publication of his 33rd book)

By Hagop Terjimanian

Recently, the Armenian Heritage Committee published its 33rd book written by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian. The book, titled **Unity, Liberty and Charity**, consists of 44 English and Armenian homilies, essays and meditations dealing with religious, cultural, patriotic and devotional subjects. In a singular and marvelous way, the message is based on the medieval Christian motto, traditionally ascribed to St. Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 354-430 AD (present day Tunis). The motto, which stated "Unity in essential teachings, freedom in non-essential teachings and love in everything", was also the theme of the 33rd book.

In a sense, Rev. Tootikian is a troubadour of Armenia and Armenians. Having worked for over 50 years as a Minister of the Armenian Evangelical Church, a university professor, school principal,

community leader, expert scholar both in Armenian and English, and, most of all, a prolific writer who has authored a harvest of books, he still writes and hopes for more.

Rev. Tootikian's compendium of writings touches everything one wishes to know about the Christian faith, the Good Earth, Armenian history, traditions, holidays, leaders, etc. He writes with love and compassion and gives friendly advice. At best, he is a teacher who teaches by example. He is happily married to Yeretzgin Rosette to whom he has dedicated this book.

Unity, Liberty and Charity can be ordered from the Armenian Heritage Committee, 3922 Yorba Linda Blvd., Royal Oak, MI 48073 at \$25.00 per copy.



Հարցումներ 3արութեան Արաւօs

(Մարկոս 16.1-8, Ղուկաս 24.1-10)

Վեր. Ներսէս Պալապանեան*

ինչպիսի՞ հարցումներ կը հարցնես Յարութեան առաւօտ**։**

Ինչո՞ւ տօնելու ենք Ցարութեան օրը։ Եթէ Ցիսուս Քրիստոս յարեաւ, ի՞նչ է անոր իմաստը մեզի համար։

Հարցումներ հաւանաբար շատերս ունինք հարցումներ։ Սակայն Ցարութեան առաւօտուն ալ հարցումներ հարցուեցան։ Արդեօք կրնա՞նք բան մը սորվիլ այդ հարցումներէն։

Ըստ Մարկոս աւետարանիչին, Կիրակի առաւօտ Մարիամ Մագդաղենացի, Յակոբոսի մայրը՝ Մարիամ, եւ Զեբեդէոս եղբայրներուն մայրը՝ Սողոմովէ (ըստ Մատթէոսի) խունկեր ծախու առած էին որպէսզի երթան եւ օծեն Յիսուսի մարմինը ըստ հրէական սովորութիւններուն։ Անոնք հարցում ունէին իրարու։

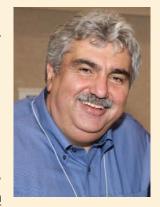
Առաջին հարցում՝ «Քարը ո՞վ պիտի գլորէ մեզի գերեզմանին դռնէն» (Մարկ 16:3):

Իրապաշտ հարցում մը իսկապէս գերզմանին քարը հսկայ էր։ Երեք կիներ կը դիմագրաւէին անկարելիութիւն մը։ Անոնք դէպի գերեզման կ՛ուղղուէին մտահոգ, սակայն անկարելիութեան առջեւ անոնք յուսահատ չէին։

Այսօր մենք ալ կը դիմագրաւենք շատ մը անկարելիութիւններ։ Ո՞վ պիտի վերցնէ «քարերը»։ Ո՞վ պիտի վերցնէ ուրած գէջ լուրը. ո՞վ պիտի վերցնէ ընտանեկան վէճերը. ո՞վ պիտի լուծէ մեր նիւթական անհաւասարակշիռ վիճակը։

Կիներուն հարցումին պատասխանը այս է․–
«Ու նայեցան տեսան որ քարը գլորուած էր:
Վասնզի շատ մեծ էր» (Մարկ 16:4):

Աստուած արդէն լուծած էր հարցը։ Քարը գլորուած էր։ Յարութեան առաւօտ մխիթարուելու ենք։ Աստուած արդէն գլորած է քարը։ Սխալ չէ հարցում հարցնելը։ Սակայն նոյն ատեն պատրաստ ըլլալու ենք ստանալու հարցումին պատասխանը։ Շատեր միայն հարցում կը հարցընեն։ Տէրոջ հարցնենք հաւատքով, բերենք մեր ցաւերը, մեր դժուարութիւնները, եւ պատրաստ ըլլանք ստանալու պատասխանները Անոր կամքին համաձայն։ Աստուծոյ կամքն էր որ քարը



գլորուէր։ Աստուած կը գործադրէր Իր խոստումը։ Աստուած կը փաստէր որ մահը պարտուած է։ Մահը չէր կրնար պահել Տէր Յիսուս Քրիստոսը գերեզմանին մէջ։ Եսայի մարագարէ կը յայտնէ Աստուծոյ խոստումը իր ժողովուրդին (անոնց որոնք Իրեն կր հաւատան)։

«Կոյրերը իրենց չգիտցած ճամբուն մէջ պիտի պտըտցնեմ, զանոնք իրենց չգիտցած շաւիղ–ներուն մէջ պիտի քալեցնեմ։ Անոնց այս բաները պիտի ընեմ ու զանոնք երեսէ պիտի չձգեմ» (Եսայի 42.16):

Աստուած մեզ երեսէ չձգեց։ Ան Իր որդին որկեց մեզի համար։ Ան ապրեցաւ, ծառայեց, սորվեցուց, սիրեց մեզ մինչեւ իսկ պատրաստ եղաւ մեռնելու խաչին վրայ։ Աստուած քարը գլորեց, եւ Յիսուսի յարութեամբ «նոր շաւիղներ» պատրաստեց։

Երկրորդ հարցում՝ «Ինչո՞ւ համար ողջը մեռել– ներուն հետ կը փնտռէք»:

Ըստ Ղուկաս Աւետարանին հետեւեալը կը պատահի. «Երբ դեռ անոնք այս բանին համար տարակուսանքի մէջ էին, ահա երկու մարդ լուսափայլ հանդերձներով հասան անոնց։ Երբ վախով լեցուած՝ երեսնին դէպի գետինը ծռեցին, եւ այն մարդիկը ըսին անոնց. ինչո՞ւ համար ողջը մեռելներուն հետ կը փնտոէք» (Ղուկաս 24.4-5):

Բնաւ կը ճանչնա՞ս ծխող անձ մը։ Երբ հարցնես թէ ինչո՞ւ կը ծխէ, հետեւեալ պատասխանները կը ստանաս։ «Կը հանդարտեցնէ զիս․ կշիռքս պահելու համար կը ծխեմ․ վարժուած եմ․ լաւ կը զգամ»։

Հետեւեալ հարցումը հարցնեմ. «Ինչո՞ւ համար ողջը մեռելներուն հետ կը փնտոէք»։ Ծխողներ շատ լաւ գիտեն որ ծխելը մահացու է։ Անոնք կը կարծեն որ կրնան կեանք գտնել մահացու ծխախոտին մէջ։ Որքան ցաւալի երեւոյթ է այս։ Ցաճախ սխալ տեղ փնտոած ենք «կեանքը»։ Կը կարծենք կեանք կայ նիւթապաշտութեան մէջ, կեանք կայ մեր ստացուածքին մէջ, կեանք կայ մեր «անձնասիրութեան մէջ»։ Ինչո՞ւ համար ողջը մեռելներուն հետ կը փնտռենք։

Յովճաննու Աւետարանին մէջ կը կարդանք․ «Ես եկայ որ կեանք ունենաք եւ ա՛լ աւելի ունենաք» (Յովճ 10.10):

Մատթէոս աւետարանիչ լաւագոյն օրինակ– ներէն մէկն է: Ան իր ամբողջ հարստութիւնը ձգելով «աւելի կեանքի» նուիրուեցաւ։ Նոյնը ըրաւ Պօղոս առաքեալ։ Ան իր համբաւը, հարստութիւնը, ընտանեկան վարկը, բոլորը պարապ բան սեպեց։ Ան գտաւ իր կեանքը Քրիստոսի մէջ, անոր աշակերտը ըլլալով, անոր հնազանդելով նոյնիսկ հալածանքներու տակ։

Ինչո՞ւ համար ողջը մեռելներուն հետ կը փնտռէք։ Հիանալի հարցում մըն է որ Յարութեան տօնին կը հարցուի քեզի։ Քրիստոս յարեաւ ի մեռելոց։ Կա՛մ կը հաւատաս յարութեան եւ կը մասնակցիս Քրիստոսի յաղթութեան՝ ապրելով նոր, ճոխ յաղթանակի կեանքը, եւ կա՛մ կը մերժես այս բոլորը եւ Յարութեան տօնը կը դառնայ անիմաստ երեւակայական տօն մր։

Երրորդ հարցում՝ «Ով կին, ինչո՞ւ կու լաս, ո՞վ կը փնտռես» (Յովհ 20. 15):

Ըստ Յովհաննու աւետարանին, Մարիամ Մագդաղենացի շուարած կը փնտուեր Յիսուսի մարմինը: Երկու անգամ նոյն հարցումը հարցուեցաւ Մարիամի: Մարիամ գերեզմանին դուրսը կայնած կու լար եւ հրեշտակները անոր ըսին՝ «Ո՛վ կին, ինչո՞ւ կու լաս, ո՞վ կը փնտոես» (Յովհ 20. 13): Յիսուս անոր մօտ կայնած էր բայց Մարիամ իր արցունքներուն մէջ չնկատեց, թէ իր քով կայնողը Յիսուս էր։ Յիսուս հարցուց. «Ով կին, ինչո՞ւ կու լաս, ո՞վ կր փնտոես»:

Այսօր այս հարցումը բոլորիս է՝ «Կիներ, այրեր, ինչո՞ւ կու լաք»:

Վստան եմ մեզմէ շատեր ամէն տեսակի ցաւեր ունին։ Ընդնանրապէս ծանր ցաւերու մէջ մեր «տեսողութիւնը» կը պղտորի, մեր «արցունքները» մեր աչքերուն առջեւը յստակ տեսնելու արգելք կը նանդիսանան։ Յարութեան առաւօտեան Քրիստոս ինք մեզի կը նարցնէ. «Ո՞ւր է ցաւդ, եւ ի՞նչ կը փնտռես»:

Հայաստանի մէջ գեղեցիկ խօսք մը ունին՝ «Ցաւդ տանեմ»։ Քրիստոսի մօտեցումը բուժիչ է։ Ան լաւ գիտէ թէ ինչպէս պիտի դարմանէ մեր մեղաւոր կեանքը։ Իրականութեան մէջ իր յարութեամբ Ան կը փաստէ, որ միակ փրկութիւնը իրեն հաւատալով նոր կեանք սկսիլն է։

Հետաքրքրական է, որ Ցիսուս երեւցաւ Մարիամ Մագդաղենացիին՝ անձի մը, որ վատ անցեալ ունէր։ Սակայն ատիկա անցեալն էր։ Ցարութեան օրուան մէջ Քրիստոս կը ջնջէ մեր «անցեալի» մեղաւոր կեանքը։ Նոր կեանքի, նոր կարելիութեան օր է։

Մանկութեանս օրերուն, մայրս կը փորձէր անպատճառ նոր կօշիկ եւ հագուստ հայթայթել Ցարութեան տօնին։ Ձէի հասկնար ինչո՛ւ այն օրուան համար սպասելու էի։ Մայրս կ՛ուզէր սորվեցնել, թէկուզ խորհդանշական կերպով, այն օրուան իւրայատուկ կերպով նոր ըլլալը։

Պօղոս հետեւալը կը գրէ. «Երբ յանցանքներու մէջ մեռած էինք, մեզ Քրիստոսին հետ կենդանացուց, (Դուք շնորհքով փրկուած էք) Անոր հետ մեզ յարուցանեց երկնաւորներուն մէջ Քրիստոս Յիսուսով, որպէսզի գալու դարերուն մէջ ցուցնէ իր շնորհքին գերազանց մեծութիւնը՝ Քրիստոս Յիսուսով մեզի ցուցուցած քաղցրութիւնովը» (Եփեսացիս 2.5-7):

Աստուած մահէն յարուցանեց Յիսուսը․ նոյնպէս Քրիստոս կը յարուցանէ մեր «մահացու» մարմինները նոր կեանք եւ նոր կարելիութիւն տալով մեզի:

Հարցումներ Ցարութեան առաւօտ։ Արտօնէ՛ որ Ցիսուսի յարութիւնը քու կեանքիդ մէջ իրականութիւն րլլայ հաւատալով Անոր։ 🗆

^{*}Վեր. Ներսէս Պալապանեան հովիւն է Սան Ֆրանսիսքոյի Գողգոթա Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին։

Երաժշտական Բացառիկ Երեկոյ Թորոնթոյի Մէջ

Կաղմակերպութեամբ Գանափայի Հայ Աւեփարանչական Ընկերակցութեան

անատայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան կողմէ Հայ եւ Եւրոպական դասական եւ ժողովրդական երգերու երաժշտական երեկոյ մը կազմակերպուած էր, որ տեղի ունեցաւ 26 Մարտ 2011 Ծարաթ երեկոյ, Քորէական Փրէսպիթէրիըն եկեղեցւոյ մէջ, ի նպաստ Արցախի Ասկերան շրջանի մանկապարտեզի շէնքը նորոգելու բարի նպատակին։

Երեկոյթին ներկայ էին քաղաքի եկեղեցիներու Հոգեւոր Հայրեր, Վերապատուելիներ, Գանատայի մօտ Հայաստանի Հանրապետութեան առժամեայ հաւատարմատար Տիար Արման Յակորեան, գաղութին մէջ գործող կազմակերպութիւններու եւ վարժարաններու ներկայացուցիչներ, բարերարներ, հովանաւորողներ, ինչպէս նաեւ ընդարձակ եկեղեցին ամբողջութեամբ լեցնող ընտրեալ երաժշտասէր հասարակութիւն մր։

Ողջոյնի խօսքով հանդէս եկաւ Գանատայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան խնամակալութեան անունով Միհրան Ճիզմէնեան,

որ յայտնեց, թէ այս երաժշտական ձեռնարկը ձօնուած է ի յիշատակ Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան երբեմնի Գործադիր Տնօրէն՝ Վեր. Մովսէս Ճանպազեանի վախճանման 10րդ տարելիցին, եւ մաղթեց որ այս երեկոյթը րոլորին համար օրհնաբեր եւ հաճելի պահեր ստեղծէ։

Պրն. Ճիզմէնեան հակիրն տեղեկութիւններ փոխանցեց Գանատայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան եւ Հայ Աւետարանական եկեցւոյ մասին, եւ ըսաւ, թէ Ընկերակցութիւնը սերտօրէն եկեղեցիին հետ գործակցելով հանդերձ, անկախ Պետական ճանաչում ունեցող բարեսիրական կազմակերպութիւն մըն է, որու հիմնական նպատակն է նիւթապէս եւ բարոյապէս հասնիլ հայ ժողովուրդի զանազան կարիքներուն Հայաստանի, Ղարաբաղի եւ Սփիւոքի տարածքին։

Actional participation of the participation of the

Ապա մեծ պաստառի վրայ ցուցադրուեցաւ նորոգուած մանկապարտէզի նախկին ու ներկայ վիճակը եւ աշակերտութենէն զանազան տեսարաներ։

Օրուայ մենակատարներ սոփրանօ Սօնա Յովսէփեան եւ թէնոր Էլի Պէրպէրեան, ինչպէս նաեւ ԹորոնթողԻ «Նայիրի» երգչախումբը, Հայ եւ Եւրոպական դասական ու ժողովրդական երգերու երաժշտական խնճոյք մը սարքեցին, հիացում պատճառելով բոլոր ներկաներուն։

Ցայտագրի աւարտին զոյգ արուեստագէտները եւ «Նայիրի» երգչախումբը իրենց վաստակաշատ խմբաւար Սարգիս Համպոյեանի, ներկաներուն յոտնկայս ցնծութեամբ լեցուն որոտընդատ ծափահարութիւններուն արժանացան եւ ստացան գեղեցիկ ծաղկեփունջեր։

Գանատայի Հայ Աւետարանչական Ընկերակցութեան խնամակալութեան անունով Միհրան Ճիզմէնեան շնորհակալութեան խօսք ուղղեց բարերարներուն, հովանաւորողներուն, արուէստագէտներուն, երգչախումբին ու իրենց խմբաւար Սարգիս Համպոյեանին եւ բոլոր անոնց, որոնք այս ձեռնարկին յաջողութեան համար ոչ մէկ ջանք չի խնայեցին եւ վերջապէս ներկայ երաժշստասէր հասարակութեան, որոնք քաջալերեցին զիրենք եւ ամբողջութեամբ լեցուցին եկեղեցին։

Երեկոյթը իր աւարտին հասաւ Վեր. Սամուէլ Ալպարեանի սրտի խօսքով ու աղօթքով։

(Քաղուած Պոլսոյ Մարմարա թերթին մէջ հրատարակուած Յարութիւն Դերձակեանի յօդուածէն)

BOOKS

A concise History of the Armenian People, by George A. Bournou-
tian, Examines the history of the Armenians in relation to that of the
rest of the world. pb. #316\$35.00
ACADEMIES FOR ANATOLIA, by Frank A. Stone, A Study of the Rationale,
Program, and Impact of the Educational Institutions Sponsored by
the American Board in Turkey, 1830-2005, 400 pp, #325 \$39.99
THE ARMENIAN ANSWER, by Richard G. Melikian, Take a walk into the
future of the Armenian people. #168\$5.00
Armenian Christianity - The Faith of a Nation, by Rev. Dr. Aharon
Sapsezian, A historical look at Christianity in the Armenian culture.
pb. #252\$10.00
ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL MOVEMENT - HISTORY, FAITH AND MISSION,
by Rev. Barkev N. Darakjian, The book consists of two parts:
Armenian Evangelical Movement and General Articles, 249 pp,
pb, #341\$15.00
ARMENIAN HISTORY TIMELINE, by Hagop & Marilyn Arshagouni, 52 pp,
hc, #289
An Armenian Family Reunion, by Mitchell Kalpakgian. A Lifetime of
Unforgettable and Delightful Stories. 159 pp, pb. #317 \$18.00
ARMENIAN NEEDLELACE & EMBROIDERY, by Alice Odian Kasparian, A
photographic collection of more than 100 priceless specimens (a
third in color), 127 pp, hc. #120\$15.00
THE ARMENIANS OF LEBANON: FROM PAST PRINCESSES AND REFUGEES
TO PRESENT-DAY COMMUNITY, Edited by Aida Boudjikanian and Pub-
lished by Haigazian University and the Armenian Heritage Press,
506 pp, hc. #338\$35.00
Armenians Resolve To Survive Turkish Genocide, by Douglas Y.
Haig, 258 pp., pb. #273\$15.00
A BRIEF HISTORY OF ARMENIA, by Rev. Sarkis Papajian, 134 pp, pb,
#140\$5.00
THE BURNING TIGRIS, by Peter Balakian, 475 pp, hc, #306 15.00
BLESSINGS IN BITTER CUPS, by Rev. Giragos H. Chopourian, Ph.D.,
Tragic, yet triumphant story of a small clan of successful working
class Armenians, living in Turkey, just prior to the outbreak of World
War I, 250 pp, hc. #305\$20.00
CHALLENGES AND RESPONSES, by Rev. Dr. Vahan H. Tootikian, 158 pp.,
hc. #339\$20.00
CLAWS OF THE CRAB: GEORGIA AND ARMENIA IN CRISIS, by Stephen
Brook, 354 pp., hc. #237\$25.00
CONVERSATIONS WITH CONTEMPORARY ARMENIAN ARTISTS, by Jackie
Abramian, 190 pp., pb, #258\$7.00
Days of Tragedy in Armenia, by Henry H. Riggs. An Armerican Mis-
sionary born in Ottoman Empire, gives a first hand account of events
in Kharbert during the Genocide, 220 pp, pb, #267\$25.00
Don't Let the Goats Eat the Loquat Trees, by Thomas Hale, The
adventures of an American surgeon in Nepal. #257\$10.00
ESCAPE TO MUSA DAGH OR THE BANISHMENT OF ZEITOUN AND SUEDIA'S
REVOLT , by Rev. D. Antreassian, 74 pp, pb, #259\$7.00
THE GENOCIDE AGAINST THE ARMENIANS 1915-1923 AND THE RELEVANCE
of the 1948 Genoice Convention, by Alfred de Zayas, J.D., Dr. Phil.,
106 pp, pb, #345\$10.00
THE HERITAGE OF ARMENIAN LITERATURE, VOLUME I, From the Oral
Tradition to the Golden Age 388 pp., hc, #288\$35.00
In Other Words, by Rev. Dr. Peter Doghramji, A variety of selected

sermons. #310\$20.00
Never Settle For Second Best, by George A Churukian. Doc
uments the life experiences of his father, Giragos M. Chu
rukian, M.D. from Kessab to Sudan to the United States. I
describes events in Kessab during the 1909 and 1915 depor
tations of the entire community. 241 pp, pb. #321 \$30.00
Survival or Revival, by Carnegie S. Calian, Ten keys to church
vitality. #278\$17.00
THE THIRSTY ENEMY - A MEMOIR, by Dr. John Markarian, It tells
about the beginning steps in the creation of Haigazian College
(now University), an institution of higher learning, and finds its
theme in seven years of war, giving a drink to the thirsty Enemy
438 pp, hc, #335\$17.00
TORN BETWEEN Two Lands, by Robert Mirak, Armenians in Amer
ica 1890 to World War I. A comprehensive study of the Arme
nian community in America. #121\$25.00
Views on Good News, by Asien Surmeian, 365 inspiring daily
devotionals for Christian living. #309\$20.00
HAIGAZIAN ARMENOLOGICAL REVIEW - 1998 Edition #67m, 1999
Edition #67n, 2001 Edition #67oEach book \$20.00
160th Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church (ir
English and Armenian), by Rev. Dr. Vahan Tootikian, Articles
and lectures by the author, lectures by Armenian Evangelica
ministers and lay leaders presented at the All Armenian Evan
gelical Conference held in Yerevan, Armenia, Sept. 15-17
2006 and a brief report on the 160th Anniversary celebrations
held in Armenia. #3256\$30.00
HEAVENLY DELIGHTFUL Сооквоок, by Mary Atikian, 247 pp, pt
(size 8.5 by 11), #307\$25.00
ARMENIAN FOOD - FACT, FICTION & FOKLORE, by Irina Petrosian
and David Underwood. The rich history, legends, and stories
about Armenia's delightful cuisine. 243 pp, pb. #318 \$20.00
"Ракее Yegak" (Welcome) or Good Luck, Hand crafted trivets
of solid wood. #26a\$5.00

ARMENIAN BIBLES - ԱՍՏՈՒԱԾԱՇՈՒՆՉԵՐ

OLD & New Testament - hc - extra large # 13k\$15.00
Armenian Reference Bible - hc green - extra large - # 13n\$20.00
Armenian Reference Bible - hc black - large - # 13x1\$25.00
pb white - large # 13x2\$20.00
Leather bound black - large # 13x3\$30.00
Leather bound white - large # 13x4\$30.00
SERPAZAN BADMUTIUN (Children's Bible) # 155b\$10.00
Armenian New Testament on Tapes (The Four Gospels - Matthew,
Mark, Luke and John) # 195,\$20.00
New Ararat Eastern Armenian New Testament (Soft-Cover), #131\$10.00
Armenian Bible on CD, Multilingual - Armenian, English, French, German,
Italian, Spanish & Portuguese & Latin (text, not audio #333\$65.00
Աստվածաշունչ՝ Հենքի Մեկնություն – (Արեւելահայերէնի թարգ–
մանուած) Հեղինակ՝ Կրեյգ Ա Քիներ – Օգտակար աղբիւր է
Աստուածաշունչը սերտողներու համար։ Մատչելի ձեւով ներկա–
յացուած է Նոր Կտակարանի իււրաքանչյուր տան մշակութային
հենքը (990 էջ) - #326\$35.00
<mark>Ներածութիւն Նոր Կտակարանի</mark> – Հեղինակ՝ Վեր . Ժիրայր Պզտիկեան
- #272\$10.00

CDs, TAPES & DVDs

A VIOLA RECITAL - Brahms, Schubert, Gomidas, Bagdasarian, Milhaud, Reger - by Gor Hovhannisyan, Viola and Gary Kirkpatrick, Piano. Recorded live, #301\$15.00 AMAA's "Young Virtuosos" of Armenia - Musical Ensemble of 6 talented children - ages 9-14 (violins, cello, flute & piano) - Armenian and international classical music, #293.....\$10.00 ARMENIAN SACRED Music Chorale - Conductor Dr. John P. Merjanian-Hymns, Sharagans, and Sacred classics - set of 4 #203..... \$25.00 BACK TO ARMENIA - Samuel Yervinian (violin) and Armen Aharonian (piano), (CD), #298......\$15.00 BIBLICAL PARALLELS - Paintings by Lucy Janjigian (DVD) - The paintings are the evolutionary results of many years of Bible Study - Accompanied by music and narration - 32 paintings, #312..... \$25.00 JOURNEY TO RESURRECTION - Paintings by Lucy Janjigian (DVD and Video) - Depicting images of Passion Week scenes from Holy Thursday to the Resurrection, with scenes from Jerusalem's land marks with narration and musical accompaniment - 33 paintings. DVD #313a , Video #313b.....\$25.00 "Mega Ga" - Armenian Children's Songs on DVD and CD - Sing along as you experience the beautiful and historical sites of Armenia. Composed by Tamar Albarian. Arranged by Vahan Ohanyan. #324.....\$25.00 Memories of Marash - (DVD) by Roger K. Hagopian - the Legacy of a lost Armenian community - 74 min. documentary - #327 .. \$25.00 Nor Yerk - Bidi Badmem (in Armenian - CD), ՆՈՐ ԵՐԳ (Սի Տի) Պիտի Պատմեմ, #s. 208j......\$10.00 "Serpazan Yerker" Sacred Music Chorale, (tape in Armenian), conducted by Dr. John Merjanian, Սրբազան Երգեր - Խմբավար՝ Տօբթ. Ճան Մերճանեան (ձայներիզ) #193......\$10.00 **UPROOTED** - Paintings by Lucy Janjigian - (DVD) - Depicting images from the Armenian Genocide by the Ottoman Turks - Accompanied by photographs, narration and music - 32 paintings #313c ...\$25.00

ՀԱՑԵՐԷՆ ԳԻՐՔԵՐ

Անփոխարինելի Ժառանգութիւնը – Հեղինակ՝ Վեր. Պարգեւ Ն. Տարագնեան – Բանախօսութիւններ Հայ Աւետարանական Շարժումին մասին եւ Աստուածաբանական, փիլիսոփայական եւ եկեղեցական նիւթերու եւ հարցերու շուրջ յօդուածներ – #308. \$15.00

Շարժումի 160-ամեակին Պատառիկներ Հայ Աւետարանական Հոգեւոր
Գրականութենէն 1846-2006 - #332\$10.00
Հոգեւոր Մտորումներ – Հեղինակ՝ Միհրան Ճիզմէճեան – Հրատարակուած
2009-ին - Քարոզներ եւ Դասախօսութիւններ - #333\$20.00
Մանկական Աշխարհ Ու Բեմ - Հեղինակ՝ Ժանէթ Քասունի -
Պատմուածքներ եւ Թատրերգութիւններ 7–14 տարեկաններու
ճամար - #334\$10.00
Սիրոյ Օրէնքը - Տասնաբանեայ Պատուիրանները եւ Տէրունական
Աղօթքը - Հեղինակ՝ Վեր. Նշան Պագալեան եւ Վեր. Դոկտ. Փիթըր
Տողրամնի – #330\$5.00
Պոլսոյ Պատանեկան Տունը – Մնացորդացի Տուն Դարձի Պատմութիւն
մը – Հեղինակ՝ Հրանդ Կիւզէլեան – #329\$20.00
ՎԵր. Աւագ Աւագեան - Վկայագրութիւն Հաւատքի Ծառայական
մանապարհորդութեան Մը - Խմբագրեց՝ Երուանդ Հ. Զասունի -
#337\$30.00
Վրթանէս Քին. Եզնակեան եւ Կրօնափոխութիւնը Բարեկարգութիւն
չէ - Հեղինակ՝ Երուանդ Քասունի - #331\$20.00

For a complete listing of our bookstore holdings please contact AMAA Book Service Department - 201.265.2607, or visit www.amaa.org

BOOK ORDER FORM

Please forward Book(s) {List by catalogue No.(s)}
for a total of
\$ plus \$ for postage
and handling.
In the U.S. add US\$5.00 for first copy and US\$2.00 for each additional book. For Canada and international orders, please call or e-mail AMAA for shipping and handling charges before you send in your order - (order books by catalogue numbers).
Name:
Address:
E-mail:
Tel.:
Enclosed is my check for \$
l Make checks payable to AMAA in U.S. dollars.

Prices subject to change.

To purchase with a credit/debit card, please call the AMAA

office at 201.265.2607

or visit our website www.amaa.org

Noubar Doghramadjian

Noubar Doghramadjian, a member of the Board of Trustees of the Armenian Missionary Association of Canada (AMAC), passed away suddenly in Montreal on August 8, 2010 at the age of 61.



Born in Cairo, Egypt on January 19, 1950, Noubar was the son of Haroutyoun and Vartouhie Doghramadjian. The family migrated to Montreal in successive waves with Noubar arriving in 1966. A graduate of Concordia University, he worked at the Jewish General Hospital in the finance department.

Noubar was a good and generous Christian and was always ready to serve in whatever capacity was needed. He was known for his smile and for his photography. He photographed or videotaped all major events at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal and gave the photos to church members for free.

He is survived by his wife of 36 years, Anahis Matossian Doghramadjian; a daughter Laura; a granddaughter Melodie; and four older brothers and sisters. A memorial service was held at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal in August. □

John Bezjian

John Bezjian of Averill Park, NY passed away on December 15, 2010 at the age of 82. He was born in Troy, NY on February 21, 1928, and was the son of the late Jacob and Virginia Kassabian Bezjian.

A graduate of Troy High School and Albany Business College, he later attended the National Institute of Dry Cleaning in Silver Springs, MD. He joined the family business, Commodore Cleaners in Lansingburgh, and later opened Mr. Kleen in Latham and Handy Dandy Dry Cleaners in Delmar, which is now operated by his son. He was a past member of the Sand Lake Kiwanis and loved playing golf.

John is survived by his wife of 59 years, Helen Adams Aintablian Bezjian; two sons John and David; and six grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on December 20 in the Sand Lake Baptist Church in Averill Park □

Esther Avedisian

Esther Keleshian Avedisian died peacefully in Bedford, MA on January 20, 2011 at the age of 99.

Born in Akbez, Turkey in 1911, Esther was the daughter of Artin and Gulezar Ke-

leshian. The family was evacuated during the Turkish Massacre in 1918 when Esther was seven years old. Her family finally settled in Beirut, Lebanon. She met her husband, Hampar Avedisian, in 1927, married him at age 16 and later settled in New York City. Her husband owned several restaurants and they later ventured into real estate.

While living in New York, Esther was very active in the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, serving as a Trustee, chairing many church bazaars, and being honored as Mother of the Year.

She was predeceased by her husband of 54 years, Hampar, in 1981; her son Jack; three sisters and two brothers. She is survived by her sister Elizabeth Balouzian; her two children, Laura Nabedian and Robert Avian; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

A funeral service was held on January 24 at the Bedford Funeral Home. The family suggests that memorial donations be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) for the Esther Avedisian Fund or to the Alzheimer's Association.

Lucine Chaparian

Lucine Chaparian, mother of Rev. Abraham Chaparian, Pastor of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Hollywood, CA, passed away on January 27, 2011 in Pasadena, CA.

Born December 2, 1919, Lucine was 91 at the time of her passing. She was a wonderful mother, exemplary grandmother and loving great grandmother and leaves behind seven children, 17 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren.

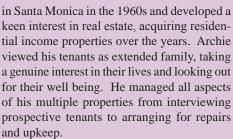
Funeral services were held on February 3 at the Mountain View Mortuary & Cemetery in Altadena, CA.

Archie Arzooyan

Archie Arzooyan, a long-time resident of Santa Monica, CA, passed away on January 24, 2011, after battling from a heart procedure. He was born on November 19, 1923.

Archie's parents, Charles, a jewelry de-

signer, and Arshagouhi, a homemaker, escaped the Genocide from Turkey and settled in Providence, RI. His family moved to California in 1945 and, after serving in the Army during World War II, Archie graduated from Los Angeles City College in 1955. As a young man, Archie began working for the newly established AAA Auto Club, selling memberships door to door. He established deep roots



Archie was a devout Christian and an active participant in the Armenian Evangelical Church in Southern CA. He became a founding member of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Hollywood, an outreach church to newly immigrated Armenians. Over the years, he established endowment funds for the education of underprivileged Armenian children as well as for church outreach and missions.

He was a determined, dedicated and hard working person, who led a full and active life. Well into his 70s, he took up ballroom dancing, attended music recitals and attended classes at the Santa Monica Emeritus College.

Archie is survived by his sister, Queenie Vartikian, his niece, Nikki Vartikian, several cousins and many loyal and cherished friends.

A memorial service was held on February 5 in Inglewood, CA. The family suggests that memorial gifts be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA).

Alice Papelian Konchagulian D'Urso and Leo Papelian

Alice Papelian Konchagulian D'Urso and Leo Papelian, the aunt and uncle of AMAA Board member Jeanmarie Papelian, Esq., recently passed away within a week of each other in Massachusetts.

Alice, 88, of Milford, MA died on January 27, 2011. She was the wife of Patrick D'Urso and mother of Gail Boroyan of Chelmsford, MA and Paul Konchagulian of Omaha, NE, and grandmother of two. Funeral services were held on February 1 at the Blake Funeral Home in Chelmsford, MA.

Leo, 86, of Milford, MA passed away on February 4, 2011 at the Westborough Nursing & Rehab Center. He was cofounder, charter member, past commander and a very active member of the Armenian-American Veterans Organization of Milford for over 60 years. He served as Executive Director of the Milford Housing Authority for many years and was an avid gardener with a greenhouse and over 100 fruit trees. Funeral services were held on February 8 at the Consigli Ruggerio Funeral Home in Milford.

Alice and Leo are survived by their brother, Roger Papelian, and his wife, Jean, of Milford and their family.

Harry Hakimian

Harry Hakimian, 83, passed away on February 20, 2011 in Albany, NY after a long illness.

Born in Philadelphia, he was the son of Avedis and Alice Hakimian. He was a cofounder and operator of the former Capital Food Market in Albany, co-partner with his brother, George, in the A&A Hakimian Holding Company, co-founder of the Advanced Syndicate and co-owner of the former United Foods. At the time of his death, he was president of the Avedis Company.

George was a member of the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church in Troy, NY and served as chair of its investment committee and as treasurer of its Adult Fellowship. He was a member of the Knights of Vartan and a life member of the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

He is survived by two nephews, Arthur and George; two nieces Anne and Rebecca; an aunt, Virginia Esaian-Noga; several cousins, several great nieces and great nephews.

Funeral services were held February 24 in the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church in Troy, NY. Contributions may be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America or the United Armenian Calvary Congregational Church.

Charles Churukian

Charles Churukian, a long time supporter of the AMAA Child Sponsorship Program, passed away peacefully on February 23, 2011 at the age of 82 in Rochester, NY. Since 1998, Charles and his wife, Irene, have



sponsored over 25 children in Armenia.

Charles was born in Rochester, NY in 1928 to immigrant parents who lived in the small mountain village of Kessab, Syria, which borders Turkey.

Charles worked in histology laboratories for 54 years and supervised the Histotechnology Lab at the University of Rochester Medical Center for the last 40 years. He was recently presented with the "Histotechnologist of the Decade" Award by the National Society of Histotechnology for his contributions to the laboratory science field having numerous publications, presentations and awards to his credit. He devoted his career to looking for ways to modify the art of special stains for the benefit of patient care.

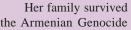
Known to many as the "guru of special stains", Charles co-developed the Churukian-Schenck stain to demonstrate malignant neuroendocrine tumors. His "Strong Fast Stain" is used in operating rooms for fast diagnosis as well as in cytology to determine the type of cells found in body fluids. His "Manual of Special Stains" has been distributed to every teaching hospital in the United States and is used in most medical labs. He was a pioneer in the use of the microwave oven.

Charles also found time to volunteer at his church and in his community. He preached at the Open Door Mission, served on church boards, taught Sunday school classes, counseled male inmates at the county jail, helped the homeless and helped the destitute to get food and clothing.

He is survived by his wife, Irene, and his sister, Rose Churukian Milone as well as sisters-in-law, nieces and nephews. A memorial service was held on March 5 at Asbury First United Methodist Church in Rochester.

Marguerite Yardemian

Marguerite Yardemian was born on April 20, 1925 in Varna, Bulgaria. She passed away peacefully on March 9, 2011 at the age of 85 in Pasadena, CA.



and immigrated to Beirut, Lebanon in 1927. Upon graduation from Nor Marash Armenian Evangelical School, she taught at the school for four years. In Beirut, she became very active in the Armenian Evangelical Church in Ashrafieh, serving on the women's auxiliary and in the choir. She gave her time and energy to Kchag, the summer camp located in the mountains of Lebanon, and served on Haigazian College women's auxiliary.

Marguerite moved to Pasadena, CA in 1986, became active in the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church and was a member of the United Armenian Cong'l Church. She was a member of the women's auxiliary, Dorcas Guild, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) and supported the Lark Musical Society because of her love for music. During her final years, she knitted crochet crosses and gave them to her family and friends.

Marguerite was predeceased by her husband, Haroutine, and her son, Hrayr. She is survived by her daughter, Elizabeth Kojadelian of Lebanon; two sons, Roupen and Vasken of California; one brother, Zaven Mazakian of Austria; a sister, Nazeli of Lebanon; six grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held on March 9 in California with Revs. Ron Tovmassian,

Kevork Terian, John Melkonian, and Joe Matossian and Father Dajad Yardemian officiating. The family suggests that memorial gifts be made to the Armenian Missionary Association of America for the Marguerite Yardemian Fund. □

Annig Gertmenian Harter

Annig Gertmenian Harter, a fashion designer, passed away March 11, 2011 in Pasadena, CA at the age of 98.

Born in Adana, Turkey, Annig survived the Genocide and migrated to the United States at the age of six. She taught herself to sew and opened an exclusive dress shop in Pasadena. Following the death of her husband, she started a new career as a sewing teacher for the Pasadena Adult Education program. Even into her retirement, she remained active, volunteering her skills in clothing restoration and design for the Pacific Asia Museum and the Los Angeles County Museum Association. She was also an active and long time member of the Armenian Cilicia Evangelical Church in Pasadena and for many years, she served as the Church Treasurer for the Armenian Missionary Society.

Annig was predeceased by her husband, Air Force Officer Walter L. Harter, and is survived by her daughter, Marrie Caldiero, four grandchildren and a great grandchild. Donations may be made in her memory to the Armenian Missionary Association of America, the Armenian Allied Arts or to a charity of your choice. \square

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA NEWS.

- * Arthur Arakelian
 Brigantine, NJ
 Elizabeth Balouzian
 Sherman Oaks, CA
 Haig Diradourian
 Mont Rose, CA
- * Charles Gardner
 Dumont, NJ
 Edward Goulian Sr.
 Fort Lee, NJ
- * Azniv Gulikjian La Crescenta, CA John Melian Cherry Hill, NJ
- * Aroosiak Mouradian San Francisco, CA
- * Mourad Najarian Carlsbad, CA
- * Memorials designated for AMAA

Non-Profit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Paramus, NJ Permit No. 55

AMAA Upcoming Events

The Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) invites you to be a part of its mission and participate in its upcoming planned activities. Here are some of the major events for 2011:

May 1, 2011 - Scholarship: The AMAA provides scholarships to qualifying college and university students in the United States. The application may be obtained by contacting the AMAA office at amaasponsorship@amaa.org. The deadline to apply and submit the application form is May 1, 2011.

May 15, 2011 - Annual Concert: The AMAA Summer Camp and Christmas Committee will hold its annual Spring Concert in the Armenian Evangelical Church of New York, in New York City on Sunday, May 15 at 2:00 pm featuring Natalie Aroyan-Vocal, Hayk Arsenyan-Piano, Nazik Tchakarian-Violin, Aleksandr Nazaryan-Viola and Amber Docters Van Leeuwen-Cello. For tickets, call the AMAA office at 201.265.2607.

July, 2011 - Internship: The AMAA will hold an internship program for High School Seniors and College-age students. The plan will be a 14-20 day trip to Armenia. It will be open to qualifying youth members who have a testimony and willingness to serve. This will entail participation in our summer camps, work in our AMAA Headquarters in Armenia, participation and leadership in Daily Vacation Bible Schools in various towns and a tour of historic sites in Armenia. For more information, please contact your pastor or youth leader.

September, 2011 - Celebration in Armenia: This year marks the 20th anniversary of Armenian Independence and the AMAA 's mission work in Armenia. The AMAA is planning an exciting tour to Armenia to visit historic sites, visit AMAA mission fields, and participate in both the AMAA's and Armenia's 20th anniversary celebratory activities. This tour will take place in September to coincide with the Independence Day celebrations. Tentative tour dates are between September 13-28, 2011. Details will follow.

October 15, 2011 - Annual Banquet: The AMAA will hold its Annual Banquet on October 15, 2011 in Los Angeles, California. This will coincide with the AMAA's 92nd Annual Meeting, which will take place October 14 and 15, 2011 in Los Angeles. Save the date! Details will follow.

We invite you to pray, plan and participate in all of our activities.